

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 02468 211726Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 EB-08 OES-07 DLOS-09 COME-00
/110 W

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P 202112Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8703
USINT HAVANA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 2468

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF PEPR HA CU
SUBJ: HAITIAN-CUBAN RELATIONS

1. HAITI AND CUBA ARE DISCUSSING THE POSSIBLE REPATRIATION OF HAITIAN NATIONALS RESIDING IN CUBA. THE DEPARTURE OF THE THREE-MEMBER GOH DELEGATION FOR HAVANA ON JUNE 18 AND JUNE 20 HAS NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED BUT THE EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT IT IS LED BY DEPUTY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, YVES MASSILLON, AND INCLUDES THE CHIEF OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S LEGAL DIVISION, REMY MATHIEU, AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, DANIEL SUPPLICE. DELEGATION RETURNS TO HAITI ABOUT JUNE 25.

2. THE TALKS ARE APPARENTLY A CONTINUATION OF THOSE BEGUN LAST OCTOBER WHEN A HAITIAN DELEGATION LED BY UN PERMREP SERGE CHARLES SIGNED A MARITIME BOUNDARY AGREEMENT (PORT AU PRINCE 0980). WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THE CURRENT TRIP WAS INITIATED BY CUBA OR THE GOH. SUPPLICE, HOWEVER, TOLD EMBASSY CONSULAR OFFICERS THAT GOH DELEGATION WOULD DISCUSS REPATRIATION OF LONG-TERM RESIDENTS AS WELL AS THAT OF THOSE RECENTLY STRANDED IN CUBA WHILE TRYING TO REACH THE BAHAMAS OR THE US ON SMALL BOATS. GOH ESTIMATES FIRST CATEGORY NUMBERS ABOUT 50,000 WHILE LATTER IS IN THE RANGE OF 200 -
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PAGE 02 PORT A 02468 211726Z

400.

3. GOH HAS GRAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT REPATRIATING ANY OF LONG-TERM RESIDENTS. THEY FEAR THEY HAVE BEEN BRAINWASHED AND THAT CASTRO MIGHT INCLUDE INTELLIGENCE OPERATIVES AMONG RETURNEES. GOH ALSO REALIZES THAT RETURNEES WOULD BE IMMEDIATE TRAGET OF SUSPICION IN ANY SECURITY CRICIS AND IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT

TO AVOID ABUSING THEIR RIGHTS, EVEN IF INNOCENT OF ANY
SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY. DELEGATIONS, THUS, PLANS TO INTERVIEW
REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF HAITIANS IN CUBA TO ASSIST GOH IN
DECIDING WHETHER ANY OF LONG-TERM RESIDENTS CAN BE REPATRIA-
TED. SHORT-TERM RESIDENTS ARE VIEWED AS FAR LESS DIFFICULT
PROBLEM.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ON CUBAN
ATTITUDE TOWARD HAITIAN NATIONALS THAT USINT HAVANA MAY
BE ABLE TO DEVELOP.
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Message Attributes

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